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August 2005

## **To Whom It May Concern:**

This letter serves as a summary of the Vietnam Education Foundation's financial support terms for its Fellows in U.S. graduate schools.

The Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) is a special program of the U.S. Government to assist Vietnam in training a new generation of scientists and engineers by sending the best Vietnamese scholars to top U.S. graduate schools.

The VEF Fellowship program is 5 years for doctorates and 2 years for masters. Most VEF Fellows are admitted for a doctoral program.

If an applicant is <u>qualified for and offered</u> a VEF fellowship, the financial parameters of the VEF fellowship will be as follows:

- 1. During a VEF Fellow's first two years at the School (Years 1 and 2), VEF will provide an annual fellowship grant of \$27,000 (Twenty Seven Thousand U.S. Dollars) to the School. This grant amount is in lieu of all required deposits; school orientation fees; tuition and required fees for the academic year and summer session; required health insurance for the calendar year; required books and educational equipment; and university graduate stipends for 12 calendar months.
- 2. During the subsequent three years of graduate study (Years 3, 4, and 5), the school is expected to provide a <u>graduate assistantship</u> (e.g. research assistantship and/or teaching assistantship) and/or <u>other forms of support</u> to the Fellow that would cover <u>all educational and living expenses</u>. During this period, the Fellow will also receive an annual professional development grant of \$3,000 directly from VEF.
- 3. VEF will be the <u>official J-1 visa sponsor</u> during the fellowship period and pay for all related <u>visa and health check-up fees</u> in Vietnam. VEF will also pay for all costs related to the legally required pre-departure orientation program in Vietnam.
- 4. VEF will be responsible for the <u>costs of transportation</u> from the Fellow's home to the school and return home at the end of the training period. In addition, VEF will offer the student a modest sum of <u>money for settling-in incidentals</u>.

As VEF searches for the best Vietnamese scholars and prepare them for graduate training in the U.S., we look for top U.S. academic institutions to join us in supporting them.

If you have any question, please contact VEF at <a href="mailto:information@vef.gov">information@vef.gov</a> or 703-351-5053.